



## **Louisiana WIC Breast Pump Program (What hospitals and medical providers need to know)**

### **Who is eligible for a breast pump?**

- WIC moms- women who are currently enrolled in WIC
- Pumps are only issued in the post-partum period based on WIC breastfeeding assessment
- Pregnant WIC participants are not eligible for a breast pump through WIC.
- Even if a woman was on WIC during her pregnancy, she must reapply/recertify for WIC after having her baby and be either a partial or exclusive breast feeder.
- Women enrolled in Medicaid, TANF, or SNAP meet the income eligibility for WIC, but they must enroll in WIC before receiving a pump.
- Women who are not enrolled in these services may qualify for WIC based on their household's gross income.

### **What types of breast pumps are available through WIC?**

- Hospital-grade pumps are **loaned** to WIC moms who need to establish their milk supply when separated from their infant or are experiencing breastfeeding complications.
- Single-user personal pumps are generally issued to WIC moms who need help maintaining their milk supply when returning to work or school.
- Manual breast pumps are given to WIC moms who need to collect milk for infrequent separation from their babies or to help resolve short-term breastfeeding concerns.

### **Is every WIC mom eligible for a breast pump?**

- WIC breastfeeding moms do not automatically get issued a breast pump.
- The type of pump issued is based on the need of the breastfeeding mom and baby, which is determined at the WIC appointment.
- All WIC moms with a premature infant or who are separated from their infant due to medical reasons are eligible to be loaned a multi-user hospital grade pump.

### **How long does it take to get a pump?**

- Mom should contact a local WIC clinic as soon as she knows she needs a pump. WIC clinics are very busy and work by appointment.
- WIC tries to make special efforts to support moms of sick or premature infants. While in the hospital, mom should call the local WIC clinic to see about scheduling an appointment as soon as possible upon discharge.

### **How can hospitals and medical providers help?**

- Contact WIC as soon as possible if there is a WIC mom or a mom who may qualify and in need of a pump.
- Complete the **Medical Necessity Breast Pump Request** form and provide to mom for expedited services.

For more information on WIC qualifications:

- 1-800-251-Baby (251-2229) or [louisianawic.org](http://louisianawic.org)